

**The law says that SSI/SSDI eligible consumers are automatically considered to be a person with at least a significant disability. Does this mean I will automatically be served?**

No, but it does mean that you are more likely to be served since you have a significant disability.

**What does it mean to create a waiting list?**

It means that DVR will not serve all eligible consumers. DVR will create a waiting list of individuals who are eligible, but cannot be served due to lack of resources.

**If I am on the waiting list, will I ever receive services from DVR?**

When DVR determines it has adequate resources to serve more individuals on the waiting list, you may receive services depending on your category and date of application.

**Can DVR serve more categories in one office than in another?**

DVR is a statewide program. All offices will serve the same open categories.

**What if I am receiving services under an approved plan for employment when DVR suspends my category?**

You will continue to receive DVR services outlined in your plan for employment.

**If I am receiving services from another program, such as Worker's Compensation, will I receive priority for DVR services?**

No, you cannot receive priority based on the referral source (such as being referred from Worker's Compensation) or based on economic status.

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DWD is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, please contact 800-442-3477 or 888-877-5939 (TTY).

For further information, contact the DVR office serving your county of residence. This is usually located in your nearest Job Center. Consult your phone book for the address and phone number or call 800-442-3477.

Additional information can also be found on the DVR web site (<http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/dvr>). Our e-mail address is [dwddvr@dwd.state.wi.us](mailto:dwddvr@dwd.state.wi.us).

DVR-13450-P (R. 11/2002)

# Understanding Order of Selection



**State of Wisconsin  
Department of Workforce Development  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**

## **What is Order of Selection (OOS)?**

A process that allows the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) to focus resources on those with the most severe disabilities.

### **How are OOS categories established?**

By federal law, categories are established by significance of disability, with the most severe being the most likely to be served.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Act defines “individual with a significant disability” as:

- having a severe physical or mental impairment which seriously limits one's ability to function in employment.
- requiring multiple vocational rehabilitation services over an extended period of time.

### **What are multiple services over an extended period of time?**

This means two or more services for more than one year. These and many other terms relating to Order of Selection are defined in Ch. DWD 65.03, WI Administrative Code, Order of Selection for Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

## **What are the OOS categories?**

Federal law requires states to determine their own categories. Wisconsin has three categories:

### **Category 1 (Most Significant)**

Three or more severe functional limitations and requiring multiple services over an extended period of time.

### **Category 2 (Significant)**

One or two severe limitations and requiring multiple services over an extended period of time.

### **Category 3 (Other Eligible Individual)**

No severe limitation or does not require multiple services over an extended period of time.

### **Are some disabilities always significant?**

Significance cannot be defined by disability. The Federal Rehabilitation Act lists disabilities which typically are determined to be significant. The term "significant", as used here, does not mean automatically or exclusively.

### **What is a functional limitation?**

A functional limitation is a personal characteristic or disability that affects mobility, communication, self-care, self-direction, interpersonal skills or acceptance, work tolerance, or work skills or work history.

## **Does a combination of non-severe limitations equate to one or more severe functional limitations?**

No, under federal law, a combination of non-severe limitations does not equate to a severe limitation.

## **Will there be a review of functional limitations on a regular basis?**

An individual may request a review of his or her assigned OOS category whenever new evidence is available by submitting the new evidence with a written request for a functional limitations review to the District Director of the office which provided the original notice. Also, DVR will contact each individual in a closed category at least annually to find out if his or her conditions have changed and if he or she is still interested in services.

## **Are certain disabilities affected more than others?**

No, we cannot discriminate by type of disability. However, some disabilities may result in limitations which are more severe than others.